

SENATE BILL No. 196

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 9-13-2-72.3; IC 9-19-17-1; IC 9-21-8.

Synopsis: Electronic devices while operating a motor vehicle. Provides that a person who uses a handheld device while operating a motor vehicle as a public passenger chauffeur commits a Class C infraction. Provides that a person who drives a motor vehicle that has a video monitor, portable computer, or other similar device capable of providing a visual display that can be seen by a person sitting in the driver's seat that is being operated while the person is driving commits a Class C infraction, with certain exceptions. (The introduced version of this bill was prepared by the interim study committee on learner's permits and graduated driver's licenses.)

Effective: July 1, 2009.

Wyss, Breaux

January 7, 2009, read first time and referred to Committee on Homeland Security, Transportation & Veterans Affairs.

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First Regular Session 116th General Assembly (2009)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2008 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

SENATE BILL No. 196

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning motor vehicles.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

1 SECTION 1. IC 9-13-2-72.3 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
2 AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY
3 1, 2009]: **Sec. 72.3. "Handheld device", for purposes of IC 9-21-8,**
4 **has the meaning set forth in IC 9-21-8-0.5.**

5 SECTION 2. IC 9-19-17-1 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
6 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2009]: Sec. 1. **(a)** A person may
7 not:

8 (1) own a motor vehicle; or

9 (2) operate upon a highway a motor vehicle;
10 that has a television set installed so that the screen of the television set
11 can be seen by a person sitting in the driver's seat.

12 **(b) A person may not operate a motor vehicle upon a highway**
13 **that has a video monitor, portable computer, or other similar**
14 **device capable of providing a visual display that can be seen by a**
15 **person sitting in the driver's seat that is operating during the**
16 **operation of the motor vehicle.**

17 **(c) Subsection (b) does not apply to:**



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(1) portable cellular telephones or personal data assistants being used for verbal communication; and

(2) equipment that is displaying only:

(A) audio equipment information, functions, and controls;

(B) vehicle information or controls related to speed, fuel level, battery charge, or other vehicle safety or equipment information;

(C) navigation information or global positioning;

(D) maps; or

(E) visual information to:

(i) enhance or supplement the driver's view forward, behind, or to the sides of the motor vehicle for the purpose of maneuvering the vehicle; or

(ii) allow the driver to monitor vehicle occupants seated behind the driver.

SECTION 3. IC 9-21-8-0.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2009]: **Sec. 0.5.** As used in this chapter, "handheld device" means an electronic or a digital telecommunications device that is held in the hand during use.

SECTION 4. IC 9-21-8-57 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2009]: **Sec. 57.** A person may not use a handheld device while operating a motor vehicle as a public passenger chauffeur.

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